August 26, 2020

To: All New Hampshire Masons,

PLANNED GIVING

My Brethren,

Have you considered, as a part of your “last will and testament,” leaving a lasting gift to the Masonic Charity of your choice? We all recall our obligation to “help, aid, and assist.” Planned Giving is an excellent way to continue demonstrating Masonic values even after one has passed to the Celestial Lodge above. Your donation and/or Planned Giving can benefit many recipients of the Craft. Here are some of the ways your donations and planned giving can benefit the Craft for years to come:

Your Blue Lodge—A constant contributor to your Lodge and/or community

Grand Lodge of New Hampshire—Masonic Education, NH Masonic Charitable Fund, Grand Lodge Endowment

New Hampshire MasoniCare—Facilities, Activities, Canteen, etc...

Rainbow and DeMolay Scholarships—our sponsored youth organizations for young women and young men

To make a gift or donation as such, one has to feel that there is value, not only in the commitment you make to the Fraternity, but value that is provided to you. Your contributions to our great and gentle Craft can keep us sustainable as a Fraternity and, in turn, provide our Fraternity with the tools needed to make each one of us better men which, in turn, improve our communities. Values such as, but not limited to, Leadership Training, seminars, programs, awards for Veteran’s Programs, publications, etc... which are provided at little or no additional cost to you or your Lodge. So, my Brother, if it is within the length of your cable tow, please consider Planned Giving.

For more information and a form that can be filled out, please check with your Lodge Secretary; the Grand Lodge website, www.nhgrandlodge.org, where donations can also be made via PayPal, or mailed (P.O. Box 486 Milford, N.H. 03055-0486 (603-554-1723); Grand View, https://nh.gvsoftware.com

This letter is sent through the Grand Lodge Office on behalf of those who assisted in developing this program.

Fraternally,

Mark E. Langis, Grand Secretary
Masonic Last Rites Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

My Brother, have you considered, as a part of your "last will and testament," leaving a lasting gift to the Masonic charity of your choice? We all recall our obligation to "help, aid, and assist." Planned giving is an excellent way to continue demonstrating Masonic values even after one has passed to the Celestial Lodge Above.

Q: What Masonic body or bodies should I include in my will?

A: First and foremost, you should consider gifting your Blue Lodge as a part of your will; however, there are several other Masonic charities that can benefit from your help. These include unrestricted gifts or restricted gifts:

- New Hampshire Grand Lodge
  - Masonic Education
  - NH Masonic Charitable Fund
  - Grand Lodge Endowment
- New Hampshire MasoniCare
  - Facilities
  - Activities
  - Canteen
- DeMolay Scholarship
- Rainbow Scholarship

Q: But I haven't been to Lodge in years. Why leave a gift to my Lodge?

A: Your Blue Lodge contributes to the betterment of your community on a regular basis. Blue Lodges sponsor youth organizations like DeMolay and Rainbow, and assist our Special Ladies. Many Blue Lodges offer their facilities for use as a church or historical society functions. Your gift will continue to support these important initiatives for years to come. With your continuing help, Masonry will continue to serve as a pillar of local communities.

Q: What process do I use to acknowledge my desire to support Masonic charities?

A: A form has been included in this communication. Simply fill out the form, sign it in the presence of two witnesses, and file the form with your personal belongings.

My Brother, remembering your Masonic charities as a part of your Planned Giving process is an admirable and appreciated endeavor. Your gift will serve as a lasting reminder of your Masonic values for years to come.

"But the greatest of these is charity."
Masonic Last Rites

Dear Brother:

Many times we put off the difficult decisions in our life, feeling that our time has not yet come…. Unfortunately, this lack of action can result in leaving to others the decisions we would prefer to make ourselves. In an effort to assure that your wishes are adhered to, the following form has been developed to help prepare each of us for that time which will come to us all.

This form is provided solely for your convenience. There is no requirement to complete it. It is intended to provide comfort and relief for your family and loved ones at a time when you will be unable to guide them.

We suggest that you complete it, and return it to your Lodge in a sealed envelope. Please give careful thought to your responses, and make a copy to keep with your personal records. You may also want to give a copy to your local funeral director and/or to your family. Obviously, this form may be altered or revoked at any time.

TO: The members of ________________ Lodge No. ________,
The members of my immediate family,
The members of the clergy and/or directors of funeral homes,
And to _______________________________________________

Upon my death:

I would like to have a:

_____ Masonic Funeral Service only
_____ Masonic Funeral Service in conjunction with a religious service
_____ Masonic Grave Side Service
_____ No Masonic Service
_____ No Religious Service

I would like the requested services to be performed:

_____ At a funeral home
_____ At my place of worship
_____ At_______________________________________

I would like to be remembered in my Masonic eulogy for the following:

________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

I would like to have my Masonic Apron:

_____ Placed upon my person.
_____ Draped upon my casket during services.
_____ Buried with my remains.
_____ Given to ______________________________after the funeral.
I would like the following Brothers, Family and/or Friends to serve as pallbearers and honorary pallbearers (if able and willing) at my funeral:

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In order to assist your family and friends at a time when they will be in distress, please consider some of the following topics, and discuss them with your lawyer or estate planning professional:

I would like my Masonic jewelry disposed after my death as follows:

_____ It should be left on my person and buried with me.
_____ It should be left on my person during my last rites, and then given to: ____________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

_____ It should be given to my local Lodge for future presentation to: ________________
__________________________________________________________________________

_____ It may be given to the Grand Lodge.
_____ Other: _____________________________________________________________________

My other Masonic mementos (such as my Past Master’s Apron, Masonic gavel, literature, etc. Should be:

_____ Given to: __________________________________________________________________

_____ Donated to my Lodge for disposition as they see fit.
_____ Donated to Grand Lodge for disposition as they see fit.
_____ Other: _____________________________________________________________________

I have decided, in my will, to make a monetary or other gift to:

_____ My Lodge
_____ Grand Lodge
_____ Other:

_____ I choose not to leave a gift of this nature.

I agree that this form is for information purposes only, that it does not constitute a legal obligation, and that my last will and testament will supersede any of the above provisions.

___________________________________   ___________________________________  
Signature       Witness

_________________________________   ________________________________
Printed Name      Witness

___________________________________   ________________________________
Date Signed      Name & Location of Masonic Lodge